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Thomas's ministry. Few pulpits in any denomination have had an abler or more faithful preacher. Dr. Thomas came from London and had to meet the peculiar difficulties falling in the way of any Englishman entering an American pulpit. He succeeded from the very first. He is to-day as much American as English—a true Anglo-American. He has done much in this country to develop a better feeling toward England, by revealing to us the real feelings of the masses of Englishmen toward our country and people. This is not the least of the great services which he has performed. Dr. Thomas's ministry has been a ministry of peace. He is one of the few eminent preachers who have kept Christ's principles of peace, as of universal obligation and practicability, in the forefront of their ministrations. Not only in times of quiet has the note of peace sounded out from the Harvard Church pulpit, but in times of crisis also when passion and excitement ruled the hour and men were in sore need of wise counsel. Dr. Thomas's church is a wealthy one, and his perfectly frank and faithful course on this as on other subjects has proved that rich men are quite as likely as any others to respect intellectual and spiritual honesty in the ministry. The discourse, entitled "The War System in the Light of Civilization and Religion," delivered by Dr. Thomas in City Temple, London, before the Peace Congress of 1890, is one of the masterpieces of peace literature, and might profitably be read by every Christian minister. It can be had for ten cents at our office. We wish Dr. Thomas a happy and safe vacation, which he is taking for the summer.

Death of W. E. Sheldon.

The Board of Directors of the American Peace Society has just lost one of its earnest and faithful members, in the death of Mr. Wm. E. Sheldon. He passed away very suddenly, from heart failure, on the 16th of April, in his office, in the same building in which we have our quarters. Mr. Sheldon had been, at the time of his death, for twenty-five years the business manager of the New England (Educational) Publishing Company. He had a long and useful career as an educator, having had much to do with the founding and development of the National Educational Association. He was a man of ability, of natural leadership, and of very social and genial nature, and he had a wide friendship throughout the nation. In his work in the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of the Peace Society, with which he was associated for twelve years, though not holding radical peace views, he showed deep and unremitting interest in all the movements for the substitution of pacific methods

of adjusting controversies in place of the cruel and, as he believed, nowadays, practically always needless arbitrament of war. He leaves a widow, one daughter and two grandchildren, to all of whom we extend our sincerest sympathies in their great bereavement.

Brevities.

. . . An effort was made in Brussels on the 4th of April, by a sixteen-year-old anarchist, to assassinate the Prince of Wales. He gave as his reason for trying to shoot the Prince that the latter had "caused thousands of men to be slaughtered in South Africa."

. . . The London *Times* thinks that President McKinley's opportunism "has done little practically to promote the creation of new ties between the two nations."

. . . The recent ecumenical missionary conference in New York, of which we mean to speak more at length in our next issue, was in many respects the most remarkable Protestant religious assembly which ever came together. It represented the growing liberality and fraternity among Protestant bodies, their increasing unity of spiritual purpose, the decline of "theological hatred," the growth of comity in mission fields, on all of which the coming of God's kingdom of righteousness and peace so largely depend.

. . . On April 27, by a vote of twenty to eight, the budget committee of the German Reichstag adopted a motion granting the new battleships asked for by the government. By this action of the budget committee the passage of the naval augmentation bill is virtually assured.

. . . "The War in South Africa: its Causes and Effects," by J. A. Hobson, is much the best book on the South African question that has appeared. It is discriminating, comprehensive and thorough. It is published by the Macmillan Company, New York.

. . . Mr. E. Potonié-Pierre, one of the veterans of the peace movement in France, continues to send out his *feuilles volantes* and his *petits plaidoyers contre la guerre*. A big batch of these which we have recently received show that he is vigorous and flourishing in old age.

. . . The total number of deaths among the United States troops in the Philippines since July 1, 1898, is 2,756. This takes no account of the thousands wounded and of those sent home invalided.

. . . The President has signed the civil government bill for Hawaii, which will shortly be a territory of the United States, with territorial officers, a legislature, etc. All the territorial offices are to be filled by citizens of the island. President Dole will be the first governor.

. . . The military government of Porto Rico ended on the 30th of April, and on the following day the civil government, provided for by Congress, went into effect. Hon. Charles H. Allen of Massachusetts, who has been assistant secretary of the navy, was inaugurated civil governor with elaborate ceremonies. His inaugural address was favorably received.

. . . The Hague Convention for the pacific settlement of international controversies was ratified by the Second Chamber of the Netherlands Parliament on the 3d of April by a vote of sixty-five to twenty.

. . . The Peace Department of the National W. C. T. U., under the superintendence of Mrs. Hannah J. Bailey of Winthrop Center, Me., is now organized in twenty-eight states, the District of Columbia and the territory of New Mexico.

. . . "The two most Christian nations are making Christianity everywhere synonymous with perfidy and greed."—*Ram's Horn*.

. . . Mr. James M. Barnard, 140 Beacon Street, Boston, has had executed a portrait of Hugo Grotius, the "father of international law," copies of which he has placed in the eighty-three law schools of the United States. Many members of the American bar are among the foremost advocates of arbitration and peace, and Mr. Barnard's admirable deed will increase the number largely in the next generation.

. . . "We regard politicians who get up and keep up unnecessary wars as the greatest of all human criminals, deserving the severest punishment both in this world and in the next."—*George T. Angell*.

. . . A friend writes us that when President Eliot said, in his alumni dinner speech two years ago, that he had examined Sumner's argument in "The True Grandeur of Nations" and found it fallacious, he ought to have added that "he had examined the four gospels and found them to be fallacious."

. . . "You cannot send a telegram to your wife, nor an express package to your friend, nor draw a check for your grocer, until you first pay the tax to maintain armed men who can quickly be used to kill you; and who surely will imprison you if you do not pay."—*The Philistine*.

. . . Russian credit in England, France and the rest of Europe is at an end, but the Russian government has succeeded in floating a loan of twenty-five million dollars in New York. The debt of Russia has increased fifty per cent. in a dozen years.

. . . The *Anglo-Russian*, published at 21 Paternoster Square, London, is a monthly publication which seeks to spread an accurate knowledge of internal affairs and events in Russia, and their bearing upon international policy. It voices Russian public opinion, so largely condemned to silence in the country itself; advocates civil and religious liberty and universal brotherhood and peace; and seeks to promote the attainment of just laws for both sexes alike.

. . . *Equity*, published at Topeka, Kan., has a department of human brotherhood conducted by Abby Anderson.

. . . "Nations, like individuals, are powerful in the degree that they command the sympathy of their neighbors."—*Our Dumb Animals*.

. . . The Committee of the Peace Society, London, have asked the friends of peace in England for a special

contribution of three thousand dollars for the distribution of peace literature in French and for other peace work at the Exposition during the summer. The Society has an admirable agent, Mr. Manuel Vasseur, in Paris at No. 4 Place du Théâtre Français.

. . . A motion in the House of Commons on April 3, declaring that, in the opinion of the House, it was desirable, in the interests of the empire, that the colonies should be admitted to some representation in Parliament, was declared by Mr. Chamberlain to be premature and possibly productive of mischief, and was therefore withdrawn.

. . . Mr. Webster Davis, who has been assistant secretary of the Interior, has, since his return from South Africa, resigned his position and is devoting his time to arousing sympathy in this country for the Boers.

. . . Mr. Alexis E. Frye, superintendent of schools in Cuba, says that "the great thing in dealing with Cuba is to trust these people, for this is the only way in which you will be able to win them."

. . . "It will require a subtle casuistry to make the wars in which Great Britain and the United States are now engaged appear to be in harmony with the spirit of the Sermon on the Mount or of any other teaching of the first exemplar of the Christian life."—*Boston Herald*.

. . . The Boer Peace Deputation now in Europe consists of Mr. A. D. W. Wolmarans, Mr. Abraham Fischer and Mr. C. H. Wessels. Their exact mission has not yet been made known, and there seems for the moment little prospect that they will be able to induce any of the European governments to intervene in any way in behalf of peace. They are coming also to this country.

. . . A Papal Encyclical in behalf of the peace of the world was issued at Easter time. It dwelt upon the Hague Conference, the disappointment caused by the Transvaal War, appealed to all sovereign powers to resort to arbitration, and asked all Catholic bishops and archbishops to use their full influence for the diffusion of the principles of peace.

. . . "To speak lightly of war, to use the hot insolent words that help to bring it on, to throw ourselves into that temper of impatience, of irresponsible excitement, of talking big, that sometimes spreads through a nation and wrecks the hope of peace; this can hardly be possible if we try to think of all that war means."—*Dean Paget*.

. . . The Peace Association of Friends in America, on account of the recent death of its secretary, Daniel Hill, held a special meeting at Richmond, Ind., on March 21, and reorganized by the election of Dr. R. H. Thomas of Baltimore, president, and H. Lavinia Bailey of Richmond, Ind., secretary. The organ of the Association, the *Messenger of Peace*, has been made an eight-page paper, and will hereafter be published at Baltimore, under the editorship of Mrs. R. H. Thomas. The Association has done most valuable service for many years and we wish it more abundant influence in the future.

. . . The American claimants to the Delagoa Bay award have entered with the State Department their protest against the acceptance by the United States of the decision arrived at by the board of arbitration.

They propose presently to submit to the Department a full statement of their reasons for dissatisfaction.

. . . The Sultan of Turkey has again acknowledged the American claim for indemnity for the destroyed mission property. The State Department has informed him that he must set a date for payment within a reasonable time.

. . . *Concord* for April gives up three pages and a half to accounts of peace meetings in England which have been broken up or violently disturbed. The account contains the names of twenty-four cities in which these riotous proceedings have occurred, and says that it is impossible, with its limited space, to present a catalogue of the cruel assaults on individuals.

. . . The Women's Disarmament League, with headquarters at Paris, has changed its name to the Women's Universal Peace Alliance.

. . . By a vote of forty to thirty-one the Senate, on the 3d of April, passed the Porto Rican bill, providing for fifteen per cent. of the Dingley duties each way, the repayment to Porto Rico of the sums collected at our ports, putting many common articles on the free list, and providing that free trade shall prevail after two years, or as much earlier as the Porto Rican government shall have secured a sufficient revenue from other sources.

. . . It is reported that the Senate will not at this session ratify the new Nicaragua Canal treaty, amended or not amended. Some of them want it amended so as to give the United States the right to use it for war purposes; others do not. Some of them dislike John Hay and wish to defeat his work.

. . . The article by Senator Procter in the *International Monthly* for April, on the "Neutralization of the Nicaragua Canal," leaves little to be said. It shows that eleven secretaries of state, from Webster to Hay, have favored neutralization, and that all the nation's utterances in the past favor this policy.

. . . Emile Zola contributes to the *North American Review* for April a very able article on war.

. . . Mr. Bloch, author of the monumental work on the "Future of War," attempts, in an article in the April *Contemporary Review* entitled "Lessons from the South African War," to support his thesis that war between two first class powers has become impossible.

. . . The total expenditures of the government for two years and nine months, beginning with July 1, 1897, have been \$1,416,753,277.34. Of this vast sum \$987,051,328.99 have gone for the army and navy, and for pensions. If to this we add the interest on the public debt, nearly all of which is a war debt, the amount will be over one billion, or more than two-thirds of the total national expenditures, which have gone directly and indirectly for war purposes during that period.

. . . "For the moment we are given over to a kind of delirium, which seems to have all the characteristics of diabolical possession."—*W. T. Stead, editor of the Review of Reviews, London.*

. . . The United States stands second only to France in the number of exhibitors at the Paris Exposition, and

has treble the number furnished by any other foreign country.

. . . A United States parcels-post convention with Venezuela has been signed. It is thought that this will be worth one million a year to this country, through the mail order business.

. . . The distinguished French peace advocate, Frederic Passy, member of the Institute of France, and for many years a member of the Chamber of Deputies, is to be the president of the International Peace Congress which meets at Paris on the 30th of September and succeeding days.

Contributors.

Our recent appeal for funds with which to meet the deficit of the year has brought us about five hundred dollars, in sums varying from one dollar up to one hundred. All these gifts have been acknowledged to the donors in person, but we give their names here, hoping that their example may encourage others to send something. We shall need more than double the amount received, to meet our present needs. The amounts given are withheld, out of respect for the wishes of some donors:

Joseph H. Atwater, Anthony, R. I.; Mary C. Atkinson, Brookline, Mass.; Joshua L. Bailý, Philadelphia; A. B. Beeching, Jamaica Plain, Mass.; Samuel B. Capen, Boston; Dr. H. L. Chase and wife, Brookline, Mass.; Mrs. Rufus Carey, Princeton, Ill.; Ednah D. Cheeney, Jamaica Plain, Mass.; Ellen Collins, New York City; Sarah W. Collins, New York City; Charles A. Chace, Fall River; Dr. H. B. Cross, Jamaica Plain, Mass.; Rev. Charles F. Dole, Jamaica Plain, Mass.; Esther A. Drummond, Boston; Mrs. R. H. Dana, Cambridge, Mass.; Mrs. Catherine E. Farwell, Boston; J. M. Graves, Wakefield, Mass.; Rev. W. S. Heywood, Dorchester, Mass.; Rev. Charles E. Jefferson, New York City; Charles H. Jones, Boston; Henry W. Lamb, Boston; Samuel Levering, Maryville, Tenn.; Josiah W. Leeds, Seal, Pa.; B. Frank Leeds, Dorchester, Mass.; James McGrath, Quincy, Mass.; Robert Treat Paine, Boston; Jonathan W. Plummer, Chicago; Rev. George A. Putnam, Millbury, Mass.; Misses Parsons, Roxbury, Mass.; B. Schlesinger, Brookline, Mass.; C. Louise Smith, Boston; D. Wheeler Swift, Worcester, Mass.; Charles P. Ware, Boston; Rev. John Worcester, Newtonville, Mass.; Miss C. L. Watson, Roxbury, Mass.; George Wigglesworth, Boston; Charles B. Wheelock, Boston; a "Friend of Peace."

The World's Crisis.

BY MARTHA SHEPARD LIPPINCOTT.

"Peace be on earth," O Jesus, Lord,
Where is the mercy thou hast taught?
It seems the mission of thy life
The sinful world hath not yet caught.
'Tis seeking still the calf of gold,
And sacrificing lives to it.
How shall we answer for such waste
When at the judgment seat we sit?